

Transcript

Editorial comments:

SP 83/15/36.a f. 77r - 82v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester.

Address leaf:

[fol. 82v]

[Endorsement by Herle:] The cople of mi lre to the Erlle of Lecester the 3rd of maye in Andwerpe. 1581.

Letter text:

[fol. 77r] Since your departure hence, my R. honorable good L. I have yndevord to loke into the state of these cawses, as far as my Capacitye, and the small menes that I have withall, woldd give me leve, & asmuche as the shortnes of the tyme, might likewyse permytt. Butt your L. knowes how rawlye I am lefte here, & what my habilitye is besyde, therfore I refferre the consideratyon to your sellf./

I have bin with the Prince of Orenge twyse, yntertayneng the best offices I cowd between yow bothe, which he toke in verey good parte, & promyseth to wryte unto your L. as occasyons shall serve, which for their importunate busynes here, gyves small leve as yet, but with the fyrste opportunitye ytt shalbe don./

I am entred into the familyaritye & nere fryndship of vj or vij of the principall state men of this Contrey, wherby I am hable to infforme my sellf of sondrie secrettes, & of the knowledge of theyre state from time to tyme the more, to the good servyce of our Contreye, & the satisfactyon of her majestie & of yow, having a lre to your L here inclosed from on of that forsayd number, who from tyme to tyme wilbe redye to do yow anye servyce he can./ marye I perceve that he dothe wryte withall to master Secretorye Wallsyngham, & that there is som grett jarre between him and Villiers the precher. for which cawses & others I do fynde him a verey discontented man, & the like is Villers in som degree, but speciallye monsieur cannot brooke the sayd Villiers./

I had sent your L with this present, the cople of the contracte passed between monsieur & the states, but that my sayd frynd hath infformed me, that he inclosed on of the same within his lre dyrected to your L. on sondaye last, wherfore I consydred that yt was needeles to pester yow with ytt agayne./

The entrie of monsieur into this Contreye: and his receving and awguratyon here, wilbe sett furthe in prynte att large, & is by monsieurs appoyntment, dedicated speciallie to your L. with all the shewes, pagents, Arches, tryumphants, & their significatyon to be expressed fullye therin, which by the middel of the next weeke I shalbe hable to send unto your L./

These pore gentellmens sutes comended to me, that I sholdd sollycite with the prince of Orenge, for the satisfactyon of theme in parte or in the whole, having somuche dew unto theme, will prove to be a colld sute, in respecte of the difficullties that is to addresse a new armye here, for the

withstanding of the enmye, muche more to paye olld detts. Butt bothe master Cobham, Morgan, & Williams shall well perceve, that I have acquitted my sellf frindlye towards theme, howe chargeable soever yt be to me, withowt proffytt./

Towching the state of these contreyes presentlie, the deputes of all the provinces ar arrived, & this morning cam those of holland vz Pawll Buis wermond, Van Skage, & the Erlle of Hollock in their companye./ wheruppon they ar to procede to give Monsieur his othe [fol. 77v] that he is to make to the states in generall, & they agayne to Receve him as their soveraygne by mutuall othe, & to give him the dewtie that appertaynes. But he hathe bin yncombred shrowdlye since your L. departure about the exercise of his masse, wherunto grett numbers resorted, & consequentlie yt was urged to have certayne churches permytted to the Catholyckes in Brabant & flanders, Monsieur alledgyng ij princypall resons to ynduce the same, fyrste the waye that was opened therbye to bryng yn the mallcontents of their syde, seyng that by the same the Religyowes frede, should be mayntayned, & their hatred towards the prince of Parma & the Spaniards incresed, & secondlye ytt was to procure the kings ayde in frawnce, the more promptlye & warmlye towards him [marginalia by Herle: theme] , & the more fryndes in those parts to assyste the generall cawse here, withowt which he was hable to do lyttell of him sellf, Alledgyng that his brother was informed from verey good place, that the d. of *Gwise* & som of the Catholickes of frawnce, had wrytten to the Pope, & to the Princes of Italye & to the King of Spayne, that monsieur by Joyneng him sellf in mariage with the Quene of England, & then usurpyng the Kyng of Spaynes domynions in the lowe Contreyes, ment to overthrowe dyrectlye the state of the Catholycke church in this unyon: & to do manifest wrong to the K. of Spaynes titell. wherfore to resyste ether, they might provyde sownd remedies in the begynneng, to repress him in the on, & to exclude him from the successyon that might be to his own patrimonye hereafter, wherof the frenche K. had advertysed him particularlye, that he shold have good regarde howe he proceded to prejudyce the Catholyck church./ But this demonstratyon notwithstanding, the comune cowncell of the towne, the Coronelles & the mynisters of the churches, that had the debatying severallye of the matter among theme sellves, have founde ytt dangerowes for theyr state, & inconvenyent for theme in partyculer, so as they have answerd that till there be an armye in the fylld of theyre syde hable to berde the enmye, that they cannot grawnt to this ynnovatyon, yet Monsieur by the instigatyon of others, dothe persyste still, to have a church yn Andwerpe, but his frindes do advise him to refferre the matter to the debatying of the estates generall, that these things may be handled with greater awthoritye, & plucke from him the envye that he otherwise may incurre, by pressyng & intertayning of so tycklyshe a cawse./

In the mene tyme: the cowncell of the towne, have forbydden all men save Monsieurs own trayne, to hawnt his masse, under the fine of a C. Crownes to be levyed for everie offence made on that behallf./

They had before imposed a C markes fine to the sayer of a masse, but nothing to the herer./ In holland & Zelland ytt is deathe & confiscatyon of goodes, to suche as shall goe to masse./ And ytt apperes that those of holland & Zelland will present suche Restrictyons to Monsieur in the next proposytion generall that shalbe had (which is to be on monday) as his soveraintye shall take small hold of theme but in that parte that onlie belongs to the contrybutyon that they shalbe rated att, which the Prince of Oreng is acqwainted with. The said Prince for pollicye sake, dothe allowe [fol. 78r] apparentlye of Monsieurs motyon for the erectyng of churches throughout Brabant &

flanders, to the end that the Religyows frede should be mayntayned, but the Coronelles & prechers ar incorage to denye the same, & have verie modest & necessarye reasons to alledge, whye they should not graunte therunto, unles there were suffycient forces in the fillde, & that the mallcontents wold Rawnge theme sellves of theyre syde, to embrace the sayd Religyows frede that was demanded on theyre behallf./ There is presentlye in secrett negocyatyon menes used to drawe som of the mallcontents from the Prince of Parma, & sondrie offers ar made, abowt the which Mettkerck & others ar employed to do som actyon therin, wherof the yssewe is not yet sene, But for asmuche as sondrie Trowpes of Spaynishe & Italyen footemen do com daylie into the land of Luxenburgh alla fila. & shall have theyre Rendevous: att Marche within that province, & that sondrye bandes of horsemen ar repayreng to the said Rendevous owt of Italye, & monsieur de Chevres a valyant Baron of Burgondye hathe the charge to levye xx^{tie} enseyngnes of wallons for the servyce of the K. of Spayne, & certayn Burgonion horsemen & [^]Allmaynes[^]./

The sayd mallcontents [^]yt is thought[^] wilbe the easelyer drawn to this syde: to provide for their own reputacion & saffetye. beyng allredie devided among theme sellves, the marqwesse of Risseburghe dellalayng, Montignye, & that factyon seperating theme sellves from the Bysshoppes, from Swevingam, Ressingan: &c. that be spaynishe./ The armye of the mallcontents dothe consiste of 3000. horse and upwardes, & of an viijm. footemen, which do lye abowt Rowsler in flanders, having grett penurye of forrayge & other necessities to mayntayne theme selves. But he that shalbe fyrste master of the fillde with his campe throughlie furnished: is lyke to have the advantayge all the yere after of the other partye: yet if the frenche K. in favor of his brother wold att [marginalia by Herle: Maziers] this begynneng stoppe the passaygs of Calyce & Maziers, all Artoys, Luxenburgh, namures, henawd, & west flanders wold be in suche sorte straytted in their traffick & in their vyttayll, as nether they should be hable to nooryshe an armye, nor theme sellves with theyre familie, but be forced to praye Monsieur & the States to Receve theme to their protectyon, being otherwise barred from the beneffyte of the sea & lande, & from the vent & exchange of their comodities, which yntertaynes an ynffynite number of the mechanicall sorte of people in those foresayd Contreyes./

Monsieur hathe projected the proportion of an armye, to be browght hither, having wrytten above v C. lres & dispatches into frawnce & elles where by Newffville & others of his trayne./ his proportyon is Xm. frenche footemen, ijm. V C lances, ijm. Swyttzers, & ijm. of Rutters, besyde the [fol.78v] computacyon that is made to fill upp the bandes of the Englysshe & scotts that be in the Contreye & to bring the contrey sowdyors that may be spared owtt of the garrisons into the fillde. To accomplyshe this, there is demaunded v Cm. [crowns] which shall paye the sowdiors afforesayd before hand, for 3. monethes, & deffraye the charges of the artillerye munityon & pyoners, which is allwayes estemed a thyrde parte of the expencs of the whole. But to recover this money uppon the sodayne, there is diffycultye, for they dare not in this begynneng procede to assaye the generall aydes, in suche sorte as they have sett downe in secrett, that their torne might be abowndantlie served with And for the partycler, there are non to disburse beffore hande anye grett some, nor the menes yn partycler ar suche, as maye supplye what is needefull on that behallf, besyde that they ar verey ill husbands, for they have dissipated so necglygentlie & vainlye the churche goodes & the revenues of the monasteryes that they suppressed, as yt is all com to nowght, which otherwise (reserving still the [proprietye] to theme sellves, as a perpetuall Rent) might have served to have deffrayed a grett peece of the chargs of the warres, & eased the contrey verey muche, to the terror of the Enmye, further they have somanie officers of Receipts, somanye Awditors, clerckes, comissaries, Baylives, & suche lyke, as above all excesse they exceede the

number of xvj. the this towne hathe more than xvj C. of these superfluowes officers, which do surcharge the state of the contrey & the Townes above a frenche crowne a daye a man, which risethe after that rate to xvj. [crowns] dailye, a matter thowgh scarce credible, yet trew, for I am well Informed therof by suche personaigs, as have the cheeffe handling of these accomptes, beyng more than tyme therefore, that they sholld com to a reformation; for ^why^ theyr whole armie wold be intertayned with a muche les proportyon./ Another thing they have which is as hurtfull to their estate as may be, & is clerelie to overthrowe their reputacion therin, yf yt be not qwickely repayred, which is that they have no regarde, to theyre worde, nor to their writeng, observing nether the on nor the other, borowyng & promising largelie, where they may win credyte, with a plain intencyon before hande, never to performe their assurances, which in particler dothe muche blemyshe the oppinion had of this Cytie, & hinder their cawse in generall./ yf yt pleased her majestie by your L. mediatyon to give me Comissyon, whiles the generall estates of the Contrey be here assembled, to Sollycite a direct answere howe her majestie sholld be answerd the dett that is dew unto her by the sayd states, & by this towne of Andwerpe, I dowtt not according to the Instructyons that I sholld receve on that behalf, but to do good & effectuall service with expedycon, for I knowe which waye to spurre theme forwardes, having penetrated into their secretts, & into the things that they ar most affrayd of, wheryn yf ytt be thought necessarie that I be employed, then her majestie [fol. 79r] Besyde the comissyon & Instructyons that she is pleased to send me, may be enclined allso to wryte particulierlie to the Prynce of orange, To the States generall, & to those of this Towne: of the charge that I have to negocyate the sayd matter./ Her majestie by this cowrse, may staye theme from ymportuning her with the request of new lones, towardes the supplie of these new necessaryes, or elles by extending her favor further towardes theme, oblyge theme the more deepelie unto her. finallye this cowntermyne may serve to manie purposes. as yt may best appere unto your wisdom, when yow shall have considred of the Circumstancs accordingle, The charge where of will not be grett, seyng that I am here allredye, & their hope is fixed to be hollpen agayne owt of England./

But to retorne unto Monsieurs Armie. there can be nothing resollved therin, beffore the frenche K. decare his intentyon, fyrst how he is enclined to embrace the cawses of these lowe contreyes, & to favor his brothers grettnes in this new awguratyon of his, beyng helld here for an infallible maxime that yf his sayd brother do not openlie declare him self, against the K. of Spayne by way of Acte, in supportyng Monsieur & these Low contreyes, & the choyce that they have made of him, that then the willes & intentyons of bothe bretherne ar vayne & withowt effecte, & conclusivelye dangerowes & decepttfull, Being lykewise as infallyble, that yf your L. had not arrived here, with the impressyon that the people & states had of her majesties favor and ayde, & of your sinceritye (beyng so honorable a personayge to seconde him in his cawses) he never had bin received as frynd, muche les invested as their Lord, wherof: your departure (which I was glad of, bycawse the people sholld not reppute theme selves abused, under the covert of your presence, & her majesties cowntenance) dyd gyve suffycyent testymonye, after that they sawe yow ones ymbarcked withowt further yntermedling in their cawse, being amased that they were entred so farre into the actyon, uppon so small assurance./ Monsieur duvraye, is expected here with the frenche K. resolutyon, who gave the sayd duvraye & Pynarte awdyens on thursday senyght as was ~~determined then~~ ^advertised hither^, Butt in the mene tyme fervarckes hathe wrytten hither to Lavall, that he fyndes the K. & his councell in frawnce, verely colld in Monsieurs actions, & that those that deppend of Monsieur ar as slack, so as he sees not the mene how an Armye may be levyed there withowt the presence of Monsieur him self, & yf his sayd Armye sholld be

composed of voluntarie men, agayne: the Insolencye of that natyon is suche, [fol. 79v] & the lacke of disscipline, as the whole enterprise woldd resollve into smoke, which is allso feared of others here of good Judgement, for the aydes which ar grownded uppon the connyvencie onely of soveraygne Princes, dyd never produce any substanciall effecte, nor sownd Intelligence./

Another yncombrance Monsieur hathe had, for where on mondaye nexte the Cowncell of the State sholdd be establysshed by the states generall & him, there hathe bin exception made to the Prince of Pynoys [marginalia by Herle: de Hevre] & to the lordes of fremont & d'Hevre (bothe allyed to the sayd Prince of Pynoys & all 3. papystes) lest that somany suffraiges or voyces might impeche or discover the thinges don there, Besyde that the Prince of Pynoys, hathe bin privatelie admonished, that he should not accept that place, thowgh yt were offred unto him, in respect of the gelowsye that is conseved, for the drawyng of the garrisons owt of Turney, & the Towne presentlie theruppon to ^{^be^} beseged, & consequentlie Rendred, withowt anie yndevor of his syde, for the releevyng therof, his wife the Princesse, sister to the Cownt dellalayng & to Mowntignye being with^{^in^} that towne at the presente, & nowe notwithstanding this private admonition, the Prince of Pynoys seekes earnestlie to be of the sayd cowncell, & to introduce others with him, which renders him more suspecte. The yssew wherof we shall knowe att this generall proposytion, next helld on monday by Monsieur, who hathe awthoritye to create ij cowncellors of his owne to be assistents,~~to the bodye~~ thowgh they be not naturalles of the contrey./ After the establyshement of the sayd Cowncell of estate, they will procede to the electyon of the privey Cowncell, & that of the fynances withall, & then to order the directyon of the warres, & the meanes how to supplye the same with money. I have inclosed herein the names of those that ar as yet of the former cowncell of the finances, that ye may beholdd uppon this allteration, what diversitey of persones ar intromitted ./ Likewise in an other paper inclosed be the names of the magistrates & principall officers of this Cyttye of Andwarpe, & of the Coronelles & Gyllds, with the number of armed men & enseynes, that ar now trayned & appoynted in ~~Reynes~~ Redines, within the Cyttye./

I have sent your L. herewith in lyke maner, the generall occurents that com from Rome, which for many respects ar worthy the note, & consernes our Cowrtt to observe theme, wherof I will furnishe yow everye weke with the lyke, as things that do com from persons of Judgement. and callyng, I would have sent your good L. a new Gwycyardyn, butt that I understood synce, that your Secretorye had provyded yow of on here att his goyng awaye. But in place therof (according to the poore myte of my habiltye) yow shall [fol. 80r] Receve ij peeces of Monsieurs new coyne , the on of x. styvers price, & the other of v. stivers & a pece of his goldd coyne of 54. stivers of which sorts if your L. wilbe furnysshed of any more I will humblye do ytt./

Your L. shall have by the next messenger after this, the articles of the joyows entrye putt in frenche, which Monsieur sware unto in your presence withowt the Towne, with som other syngularities conserning these places that shall content yow./

There be arrived this daye certayne comyssioners from Bollduck to treatt with Monsieur & the Prince to be compassed within this unyon that shalbe establysshed, namelye yf the Religiowes frede may be obtayned to permytt theme the exercyse of their auncient Religyon, whose yellding would be of grett ymportance, to bryng yn others to followe theyre example, & by havynge of Bollduck, the Towne of Breda cowd not holdd owt long, for they should have no meanes to salye yn nor owtt with provisions./

Itt apperes, aswell by the occurents from Rome, as by sondrye other advertisements & circumstances that be presented here, that the frenche have a grett desyre to embrace manye practises att this daye, for they be busye att Constantinople, Mallta, Naples, Rome, Barbarye, the Duchye of Millayn, The Emperors Cowrtt, Germany, the Low Contreyes, Scotland & England./

Bodinns affirmed openlie within these 3. dayes here, that beffore vj monethes were com we should be invaded with forreyne & cyvill warres for our Religyon in England./

Master Norrys arryved here 4. dayes synce, & with him the Cownt John of Nassowes son, leavyng the seege of the castle of Bronckhurste under the charge of Captayne Gaynsford, who hopes to possesse ytt shortlye, wherby they shall have all the River clere from the Enmye to the grett good & qwiettnes of the Contreie./ They have loste att that seege, a vij xx of the bravest men they had, beyng badly provided of powder & Shott to batter the place, by reson wherof they ^{^enmye^} hathe helld owtt the longer, ^{^the beseegers^} not beyng hable to envyron the sayd castell, nor to garde their ordynance, yf the Enmye had com to **[fol. 80v]** Releeve the sayd place, I sende your L. a rude drawght therof drawn with the pen, that ye may beholld the scytuacyon of the place, & the ymportance that ytt is of, with the Skantz or lyttell forte that master Norrys made uppon the Ryver to retyre his men ynto, & his ordynance eche nyghte./

Rocepott should have bin made by Monsieur Coronell generall of all the Inffanterye, that were to serve in these Contreyes, Butt yt semes that master Norrys shall reteyne his englishe Regiment to hym sellf, and so eche natyon theirs./

Archeduke Mathias is departed from Colleyn with som difficulltye, for that he wanted money to deffraye his charges. He visittes his frindes the Princes of Germanye in his jorney & protractes the time to mete with his brother the Emperor att the dyett to be hollden in Awgusta in maye next./ He hathe 50m. gilldernes pensyon gyven him by the yere of the states here, condicionallye that he shall nether practys nor assocyyate him sellf with the enmyes of the sayd States./

Don Edward du Crasto Ambassador here for the K. don Anthonio departs into frawnce shortelie, smallye satisfied, towching the negociatyons that he had here for shippeng & mariners, for that the meanes he presumed to furnishe him sellf by of money, have failed him./ They of Holland & Zelland do so abownd of mariners, as that the magistrates desire to have theme ymployed in som milytare servyce, beyng well enclined to Portyngall, for that otherwise they ar not hable to sett their sayd mariners a worcke, nor to governe theme./

On Mondaye laste the Princs dowghter was christened, the Towne of Andwarpe was the godfather, and the widow of the late Pallsgrave with the Cowntesse of Newnar, were Godmothers: Villiers preched att the sayd christenyng./

Here is on frawncs Puccio, a florentyn borne, that hawnted in England som~~time~~ while, bothe in the universitye of oxford, & the Cyttye of London, estemed to be well learned, who comyng over now when your L. accompanied Monsieur, hathe assured me that Coranus the spanishe precher, is on of the dangerowse persons for his life & oppinions that ever lyved in State./ affirmeng that the sayd Coranus, whatsoever he pretends **[fol. 81r]** well owtwardlie of Religion & doctrine, that he holldes ynwardlye the contarie, & hathe maintayned to the sayd puccio, that the messias Christe was never promised, nor never yet cam, but was a thing ynvented by the Rabbynes, & that the

Jewes of Asia ar still of that oppinion, And towching the faythe deliverd by the Appostles that ytt was grownded uppon supposition & hipocrisye, and consequentlye a collusyon./ onlie he saythe that god hathe a providens over his Creatures, & dothe rule the successe of things. The meane saythe puccio to sownde Coranus, towching this his most blasphemowes & pestilent secte, is to have som on, after twise or thrise confference with him, to dowtt of the messias comyng, & of the promys that was made on his behalff, wheruppon the sayd Puccio affyrmes, that he will make no difficulltye to discover him sellf, which were well don: to the glorie of God & the good of the Reallm, & ^yet^ ytt apperes that Puccio allso hathe strange conseytts of Religion, by the maner of the discowrses and purposes, that he helld with me./

Yesterdaye and to daie, ar arrived here the Portingall fleete of this towne, who ar verey richelie laden, and have manye rare things to sell./

Lastlie to conclude this my Tedyows long lre, which though ytt be stuffed with sondrie matters of small moment, yet I thought not in this begynneng, that ytt were unffytt to observe eche particularitye, that your wisdom might be conferring theme togeather, the better Judge of the state of thinges, & of the humors that Raigne here, having everie tyde grett companies of frenche that do repayre hither owt of frawnce to Monsieur, but men more unffurnished with money (unles yt be my sellf) I never sawe. Backevilles cowntenance is mucche decayed since he cam here, for Monsieur is contynuallie in matters of cowncell, & yntertayned wellnye the whole tyme by the Prince and States, so as if ytt be not on of his cowncell, or of his officers nere unto him, the cowntenance of the rest is nomore, than eche on takes to him sellf./ Monsieurs howsse, hath but small order in ytt, yet som of our Englysshe gentellmen do repayre thither by tymes to meales. /

There is on principall boorde, which is the Stewardes, ^and du Pruneawx^, & then there by ij more, the on for those that waytt in the chamber [fol. 81v] And the other for those that attende att his own table, that be called for the mowthe, with whom the Secretories have theyr allowance./

Ytt may please your L. herewith to consider that now this towne of [marginalia by Herle: Center] Andwarpe, & the Cowrte of these princis, is the verey Center of all the concowrse of christendom, bothe for negociatyng and practiseng of highe thinges, wherunto everie mans eye & mynde is directed to beholld theme, as a matter of moste importance & expectacion & where even the whole state of the christien worlde, as in a theater is treated of ether directlie or indirectlie, Therefore ytt shalbe most necessary for her Majestie to have a vigilant eye therunto, for ytt will conserne her wellnye most, wherin yf I might do her majestie anye servyce, being awthorised so to do, ether privatelye or openlie, & ynhabled with som yndiffrent allowance, to bere owt parte of the charge, I woldd not onlie supplie the rest with my Industrie, but so deserve I hope, in service to her majestie & mi contrey, & yncontentment to your L. & the graver sorte, as I woldd discharge that in everie parte, that on of more state & expence, sholdd not so easelye acheve./ And as further the yssew of these thinges wilbe throwlye sene ynto beffore Ester & the maske of manye conivencies & practises, be taken awaye & discoverde: so having don that agreeable servyce here during that tyme (yf I be employed) that may Render good contentment./ So yf ytt might please your L. her majestie may be made consequentlye enclined, to use me in som what ells in this next dyett of ThEmpire (a matter speciallye to be consydred of) presumyng humblie that I have suche meanes and fryndes, bothe here & there, joynded with an extreme desire to do my soveraigne servyce, as ytt shall surmownt my habiltye, by effecting more than may be looked for att my handes, wherin my actyons ar to subsiste of diligens, secresye, and Judgement, but yf there be no inclinatyon to use

me a poore servant of her majesties own, beffore another, ytt may please your L. to signe the same by your fyrst lres, that I may retyre my self hence, for having no mayntenance from others nor habilyte of my self, I cannot contynue the cowrse that I desyre, for *ex nihilo nihil fit* & your L. ^hathe experyence^ whatt the charges of this contreye ys, butt I wolld sacrificyce my liffe, & all the weallth in the worlde (yf ytt were myne) **[fol. 82r]** to do anye thing that might satisfye her majestie & your L. withowt regarde of any meryte to revert, or to be reped therby. Humblye prayeng your L. herewith to vowchesave 3. lynes of thanckes to the Prince of Orenge for the grett favor I do fynde att his handes, of whom I do deppend beyng here, and wherby I shall receive the more cowntenance and habilyte, yf ye wilbe pleased to wryte this effectuallie & speedilye, & as the frenche man sayth with good ynck, comending me allso by a shorte lre to St. Aldegonde likewyse./ Wherwith prayeng to the highe God for yow, & for the happye estate of my Soveraygne and contrey from my very harte: I do take my leve. Andwarpe the 3^d of marche./ 1581/ Your L. with his prayer and service most humblye. W. H.ly

[Postscript:] Here be frindes of the d. of Gwise in this towne, dangerows persons of whom I will learne more, they be not Idell, wherof I know som particularitye, but I will infforme my self more hereof./